

AGENDA - (REVISED 5-26-09)

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTICIANS

Wednesday, May 27, 2009, at 9:00 AM
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT
Second Floor – Conference Room E

CALL TO ORDER

I. MINUTES

Review and approval of the minutes from March 4, 2009.

II. Department of Public Health Updates

A. Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, Department of Public Health

B. Examination Update

Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, Department of Public Health

III. Legal Office Business

A. Cohen Fashion Optical, Inc., Danbury, CT – Petition No. 2007-0719-057-003

Presentation of Consent Order – Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH

B. Paul Beckert, LO – Petition No. 2008-1105-038-003

Motion for Summary Suspension – Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH

IV. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the board.

The Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians held a meeting on March 4, 2009 at the Department of Public Health, Capitol Avenue, Second Floor Law Library, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Linda Conlin, LO, Chairperson Loray Courchaine, Public Member Skip Rivard, LO
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
ALSO PRESENT:	Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit, DPH Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Examination Analyst, DPH Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH

Chairperson Linda Conlin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES – November 19, 2008

The minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Skip Rivard moved and Linda Conlin seconded that these minutes be approved. The motion passed.

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Practitioner Investigation Unit reported that at this time there are four ongoing investigations, two are with the legal office.

Ray Dennis filed a complaint that a shop on Franklin Avenue was illegally selling costume contact lenses.

Legal Office Business

Cohen Fashion Optical, Inc., Danbury CT – Petition No. 2007-0719-057-003
Presentation of Consent Order – Joelle Newton – Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH

During July 2007 through August 2007 respondent optical shop was open for business without a licensed optician on duty. Also, the optical shop allowed employees to dispense eyewear to customers without a licensed optician on duty.

Discussion among board brought to light that Tracy Aarons, the respondent for Cohen Fashion Optical, Inc. is a repeat offender who has been fined for similar offences in the past. The Board felt that the fine should be increased for this repeat offender. The amount of \$7,000 was agreed upon. Questions were also raised about who would be responsible for the fine since it appears that Tracey Aaron may no longer be with Cohen Fashion Optical, Inc. Legal Office to investigate further.

Loray Courchaine made a motion to take no action pending further investigation. Seconded by Skip Rivard and passed unanimously.

Examination Update

Maritsa Morales reported the results from the Contact Lens Exam on November 4, 2008. Of the thirteen candidates, eight failed and five passed. The Eyewear Exam was held on November 10, 2008. Of the sixteen candidates, six failed and ten passed.

There was one appeal from the Contact Lens Exam. Candidate # 1 sent a letter to the board asking for review of three questions. Upon review, Candidate # 1 was given points for the test ball curvature. Maritsa will notify the candidate of the change in grade.

The June 2009 examination days were set:

June 1, 2009 - Contact Lens

June 8, 2009 – Eyewear

Applications for the exams need to be submitted by April 10, 2009. Skip Rivard requested that this deadline to be stressed on the website.

Development of a New Licensing Examination

Skip Rivard wrote a summation of the changes made to the eyewear exam during the November 19, 2008 Board meeting. These changes will be implemented with the June 2009 exam. A handbook of definitions was also submitted to be used by the exam proctors to aid in grading future exams.

Adjournment

Loray Courchaine made a motion and Skip Rivard seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Loray Courchaine
Public Member
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians